

I also must take this opportunity to thank Kay for her many years of special friendship. As an educator, parent, and colleague, Kay has inspired greatness in others, including myself—leaving an indelible mark on their lives. I am proud to join her husband, Mitch, her children, Peter and Lily, as well as all of the friends and colleagues who have gathered this evening to extend my sincere congratulations to Dr. Kay Hill as she celebrates her retirement.

#### TURKEY PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

### HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, as a Member of the Intelligence Committee, I congratulate the nation of Turkey on its recent elections. On July 22, 2007, 43 million Turkish citizens—over 80 percent of Turkey's population—exercised their civic responsibility and went to the polls to elect Turkey's 550-member parliament for the next 5 years. The election occurred without incident or allegations of impropriety. With this election, Turkey affirmed that its democracy is alive and well, and provided an inspiring example to other nations in the region.

The election will seat three parties in Parliament: the Justice and Development Party (AKP), the Republican People's Party (CHP), and the National Action Party (MHP). In addition, 27 seats will be filled by independents.

Turkey's financial markets reacted with enthusiasm to the elections. On Monday, July 23, the Istanbul Stock Exchange (IMKB) rose by 5.08 percent, hitting a record high at one point during the day, reacting to expectations of continued stability and increased economic prosperity.

Foreign governments and world leaders praised the election process as free and fair. Numerous major media outlets, including The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times here in the United States, published positive editorials praising the "wisdom of the Turks" and noting that "democracy was affirmed."

America must cultivate and support our allies. We must reach out to moderate Muslim nations in the Middle East and build stronger relationships to repair our reputation abroad. Allies like Turkey can help foster economic and regional security. Turkey supports the Global War on Terrorism and is a critical ally in keeping nuclear weapons out of the hands of terrorists.

As the only democracy in the Middle East with a predominantly Muslim population, the significance of this election cannot be understated. The U.S.-Turkey relationship is critical to both nations' security. Turkey is and will continue to be an important and strategic ally of the United States. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Turkey on this impressive achievement of democracy.

U.S. TROOP READINESS, VETERANS' CARE, KATRINA RECOVERY, AND IRAQ ACCOUNTABILITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

### HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2007*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation before the House that fixes a drafting error that has kept ranchers in Kansas from receiving important disaster assistance. My top priority this year has been to see that the agricultural producers in my district who have been devastated by extreme weather are given the support needed to stay on their feet and continue feeding our nation.

I was glad to see Congress recognize the importance of delivering disaster assistance to our country's hardest hit producers. I was not glad to see an error in the bill effectively prohibit ranchers from receiving this aid. A provision required ranchers to have participated in a particular insurance pilot program. The problem is that this pilot program does not exist.

Absent the fix we are making here today, some producers in Kansas, at no fault of their own, will not be in business come winter. In Kansas, we have struggled through 5 and 6 years of drought followed by last year's strong winter storms in December that caused 44 of Kansas' 105 counties to be declared natural disasters. And as you have all seen, tornadoes, hail and floods have now affected the rest of the State of Kansas. In total, 65 of the 69 counties I represent have been declared federal disaster areas this year.

I am grateful we are taking action to allow the intended disaster assistance to reach ranchers across the plains. The bill before us, the Senate version of a bill I introduced here in the House, will simply strike the one sentence in the disaster bill that is causing the problem.

So, Mr. Speaker, this is an important piece of legislation, and I ask my colleagues, both Republicans and Democrats, to support this bill.

#### HONORING THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the African Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday School Union on the occasion of its 125th anniversary. The Sunday School Union has played a critical role not only in preserving the church's history, but also in educating its members and providing an encouraging vision for the future. For over a century, the Union has been a fine contributor to the Nashville community, to the State of Tennessee, and to many parts of the world that have benefited from this organization's publications and services.

As far back as 1818, there grew a call within the African Methodist Episcopal Church for an organization that would produce suitable literature for its youth and would advocate training for its Sunday school teachers. Richard Allen, the church's founder, knew that in order for the church to grow, effective circulation of the information would be essential.

In 1847, the A.M.E. Church began considering several proposals for an organization that could achieve these goals. In 1882, after over 60 years of preparation, Reverend Charles Smith presented the final plan to the bishop in Cape May, NJ. The Department of Publications and Book Concern was created, publishing the first Sunday school literature by African-Americans. In a letter to Reverend Smith, Frederick Douglass wrote that the Union "will doubtless be a luminous point in the moral and intellectual progress of the colored people of the South."

In 1886, Reverend Smith purchased a five-story brick building on the square in Nashville for the newly founded organization. Madam Speaker, I take great pride in the fact that, since that time, Nashville has been the headquarters for the Sunday School Union.

In the years that followed, a number of dedicated and capable men led the Union. They sought to innovate the production process and to improve the quality of the publications. Reverend William Chappelle took over for Reverend Smith in 1900 as secretary-treasurer and served for 8 years. He was followed by Ira Bryant, under whose leadership the Union acquired additional property and purchased a modern printing plant. Then in 1936, E.A. Selby headed the Union, and it was during his term that the Department of Publications and the Book Concern merged with the Sunday School Union.

Reverend Charles Spivey, Sr., was elected in 1964 and served until his retirement in 1972. Upon the announcement of his retirement, Reverend Spivey made a generous donation of \$20,000 to the A.M.E. Church to help support its continued growth. Reverend Henry Belin, Jr., who followed Spivey, secured a new publishing house for the Union. Under his leadership, the Union published not only denominational materials, but also several scholarly works covering topics such as theology and history.

Reverend Belin was ordained as a bishop in 1984, and Reverend A. Lee Henderson was elected in his stead. Henderson revamped the Union's publications, giving the Sunday school literature and other publications a new look through the use of brilliant color and creative graphics.

In 2000, Reverend Dr. Johnny Barbour was elected. The efforts of Secretary-Treasurer Barbour and of Bishops Philip Cousin, Sr., McKinley Young, Gregory Ingram, and Vashti McKenzie have combined to lead the Union to its current strong state on its 125th anniversary. Because of their passion, the Union can look forward to a bright future.

This anniversary marks real accomplishment that years of perseverance have made possible. For decades, the African Methodist Episcopal Sunday School Union has focused its energy and its talent, making itself a first-class publishing institution. Today, the A.M.E. Sunday School Union continues its mission, publishing the highest quality hymnals, study courses, and church materials.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the African Methodist Episcopal Sunday

School Union, whose exemplary publications have strengthened the church and have fostered intellectual growth for over a century. I would like to ask the House to join me in extending warm congratulations to the Sunday School Union on its 125th anniversary. May it enjoy many years of continued success.

**HONORING THE NEW HAVEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the community of my hometown, New Haven, CT, as friends, colleagues, and community leaders gather to celebrate a remarkable milestone—the 100th anniversary of the New Haven County Bar Association. Founded in the late 18th century and incorporated in 1907, this organization serves as the professional association for judges, attorneys, and legal paraprofessionals throughout the greater New Haven area.

As one can see from the historical exhibition currently on display at the New Haven Museum and Historical Society, the legal community has long played a unique and integral role in the rich history of New Haven. From the earliest days of the colony and the *Amistad* case in the 1840s through the Black Panther trial in the 1970s and *Connecticut v. Griswold* in 1965, New Haven attorneys and judges have been at the center of legal decisions which have helped to define our Nation. Beyond those cases which garnered national attention, the exhibit also reminds us of the many local lawyers who had a significant impact on the character of our community. Theophilus Eaton wrote the laws of the New Haven Colony in the 1600s, Joseph Sheldon actively hired African-American law students in the 1880s and was influential in the development of the American Red Cross, George Dudley Seymour who was known for his dedication to civic duty in the 1900s, and Mary Manchester, who, in 1938, was the first woman to be named a law partner in Connecticut.

Today, the New Haven County Bar Association is more than simply a professional association. It supports its members in many ways including continuing legal education programs, new attorney mentoring opportunities, annual social events and working to foster relations between its members and the courts. The Bar Association is also the sponsor of the New Haven County Lawyer Referral Service—a not-for-profit public service that, for more than 50 years, has referred members of the public to private attorneys experienced in the appropriate field of law. The Bar Association also works closely with its charitable arm, the New Haven County Bar Foundation, Inc., which provides charitable outreach and educational programming.

As members gather this evening in celebration of the New Haven County Bar Association's 100th anniversary, we pay tribute to the many invaluable contributions the legal minds of our community have made locally, state-

wide, and nationally—but most importantly for the countless hours of hard work they do every day for their clients. While New Haven certainly has had its share of compelling legal cases which have caught the public's attention, more often than not, our lawyers, judges, and legal paraprofessionals are working on cases which—while they may not make national headlines—have a real impact on the lives of those they are representing. For the outstanding work they do every day and for the many contributions they make to our community, I am honored to stand today to extend my sincere congratulations to the New Haven County Bar Association and its membership as they celebrate their centennial anniversary.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE COINAGE MATERIALS MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2007**

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, along with my distinguished colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. FRANK, I am proud to introduce the Coinage Materials Modernization Act of 2007.

This legislation, which is supported by the Treasury Department, would update the law governing the materials used to mint U.S. coins by authorizing the Treasury Secretary to change the composition of coins to less expensive materials.

The immediate purpose of this legislation is to address the rising cost to taxpayers of minting pennies and nickels. Currently pennies are made mostly of zinc and have a copper-plated surface. Nickels are made up of an alloy of 75 percent copper and 25 percent nickel. Since March of 2003, world demand for core metals has driven up the price of copper and nickel by 300 percent and of zinc by 450 percent. At the current specifications for these coins, it costs the Government 1.7 cents to make a penny and 10 cents to make a nickel.

Other coin denominations continue to be made at costs well below their face values, but metal cost is increasing for them as well. This legislation will allow Treasury to change the composition of all U.S. coins to less expensive alternatives and dramatically reduce the costs of producing these coins.

The Treasury Department estimates that by changing the composition of pennies and nickels, we will save the Government over \$100 million a year; and by making similar changes to the half dollar, quarter and dime, the Government can save as much as \$400 million annually.

Under current law, the Treasury Secretary cannot change the base metals used to make our Nation's coinage without congressional action. The Secretary has the authority to vary the alloy of copper and zinc comprising the penny, but there is little room for further adjustment. This legislation would grant the Secretary the authority to change the base metals used to mint coins, potentially saving taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars, without changing the visual features of our coinage.

After this bill is enacted, the United States Mint, which is a bureau within the Treasury Department, will seek public and industry com-

ment on possible alternative composition for the penny and the nickel. Following the comment period, there will be a competitive public bidding process for new coinage materials. Congress, particularly the Committee on Financial Services, chaired by my cosponsor, Mr. FRANK, and the Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade and Technology, which I chair, will exercise strong oversight over this process.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, which has the potential to save the Federal Government hundreds of millions of dollars annually. The financial resources of the Federal Government are limited, and it is rare when we have the opportunity to make a simple legislative fix with the potential to save the taxpayers so much. We should take full advantage of this opportunity and pass this legislation in an expeditious manner.

**IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PUBLIC SERVICE OF PHOEBE AND RALPH SHOTWELL OF SUSSEX COUNTY, NJ**

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend two long-time public servants in Sussex County, NJ: Phoebe and Ralph Shotwell. Both are pillars of the 4-H in Sussex County, having spent a lifetime working with its programs.

Phoebe Hunt Shotwell, who first became a part of 4-H as a child, has been a volunteer leader for the 4-H cooking club, the Yeastie Beasies, for 55 years. She is on the Sussex County 4-H Advisory Council and is on the Executive Committee for the New Jersey State Fair/Sussex County Farm and Horse Show. Phoebe is also a director for the Sussex County 4-H Foundation, where she reviews scholarship applications, a job for which this former assistant teacher and library aide is very well qualified. She has also volunteered her time with a number of community organizations, such as the local PTA and the Green Township Hospital Auxiliary.

Ralph Shotwell first joined his local Pequest Dairy 4-H Club in 1928 at the age of 11. Over the years, he has served as president of the Sussex County 4-H Council and has participated in a number of related efforts, including the Pomona Grange, New Jersey State Grange, Farmer's Enterprise Grange, Sussex County Agricultural Society, Sussex County Milk Producers, and Sussex County Board of Agriculture. He has also found time to serve as an elder in his church and as a volunteer firefighter and chief with the Green Township Fire Department.

It is due to the dedication and hard work of the Shotwells and volunteers like them that the 4-H program in Sussex County has grown to more than 700 members participating in 63 clubs.

Today, at the Sussex County Fairgrounds in Augusta, NJ, the Sussex County 4-H Educational Exhibit Hall Committee will dedicate the Phoebe and Ralph Shotwell 4-H Exhibit Hall. During the upcoming State Fair, the facility will be used for clinics, demonstrations,